

Appl. No. 09/914,494
Attr. Docket No. CM2057M
Amdt. dated 12/3/2003
Reply to Office Action of 9/25/03
Customer No. 27752

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

~~The present invention relates to a A~~ perfumed detergent tablet[[]] ~~the tablet comprising comprises a clay mineral compound and a heavy metal ion sequestrant. The clay mineral helps disperse the tablet in aqueous media and acts as a fabric softener for laundered fabrics. The perfume is free of Schiff bases, such as those formed from anthranilates and aldehydes, which can discolor the clay.~~

A copy of the amended Abstract is presented on the attached separate sheet

Please amend the specification as follows:

Replace the first full paragraph beginning at page 4, with the following amended paragraph:

Recently, it has been found means by which coated tablets can be provided with a coating so that they can be stored, shipped and handled without damage, the coating being easily broken when the tablet is in the washing machine, releasing the active ingredients into the wash solution. Typical of such disclosure can be found in pending European patent applications EP 99870017.3, publication date 8/9/00, EP 99870018.1, publication date 8/9/00, and EP 99870019.9, publication date 8/9/00.

Replace the fourth full paragraph beginning at page 15, with the following amended paragraph:

The tablets may comprise components such as surfactants, enzymes, detergent etc.... Typical tablet compositions for the preferred embodiment of the present invention are disclosed in the pending European applications of the Applicant no. 96203471.6, publication date 6/10/98, 96203462.5, publication date 6/10/98, 96203473.2, publication date 6/10/98, and 96203464.1, publication date 6/10/98, for example. Elements typically entering in the composition of detergent tablets or of other forms of detergents such as liquids or granules are detailed in the following paragraphs.

Replace the third full paragraph beginning at page 25, through page 26, line 4, with the following amended paragraph:

Suitable examples of proteases are the subtilisins which are obtained from particular strains of B. subtilis and B. licheniforms. Another suitable protease is obtained from a strain of Bacillus, having maximum activity throughout the pH range of 8-12, developed and sold by Novo Industries A/S under the registered trade name ESPERASE. The preparation of this enzyme and analogous enzymes is described in British Patent Specification No. 1,243,784 of Novo. Proteolytic enzymes suitable for

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removing protein-based stains that are commercially available include those sold under the tradenames ALCALASE and SAVINASE by Novo Industries A/S (Denmark) and MAXATASE by International Bio-Synthetics, Inc. (The Netherlands). Other proteases include Protease A (see European Patent Application 130,756, published January 9, 1985) and Protease B (see ~~European Patent Application Serial No. 87303761.8, filed April 28, 1987, and~~ European Patent Application 130,756, Bott et al, published January 9, 1985).